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DATE:	July 27, 2004	TOTAL # OF PAGES: (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET)	4
TO:	James O. Wilson, Supervising Examiner	FAX #:	[703] 872-9306
FIRM NAME:	U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	PHONE #:	[571] 272-0661
FROM:	Renee M. Kossak	FAX #:	(415) 398-3249
PHONE #:	(415) 544-7041	EMAIL:	kossak.renee@dorsey.com

## COMMENTS:

Re: U.S. Serial No. 08/648,270  
 Filed: May 15, 1996  
 Applicants: Tor et al.  
 For: **Substituted Phenanthrolines**  
 Art Unit: 1623  
 Primary Examiner: Lawrence E. Crane

Enclosed please find a courtesy copy of the Second Status Inquiry in regard to the above-referenced application.

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REFERENCE # A-63463-1/RFT/RMS/RMK [467720-00004]

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP · WWW.DORSEY.COM · T 415.781.1989 · F 415.398.3249  
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## PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: A-63463-1/RFT/RMS/RMS  
Attorney File No.: 467720-00004

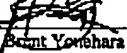
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Tor *et al.*

Serial No. 08/648,270

Filed: May 15, 1996

For: *Substituted Phenanthrolines*Examiner: Lawrence E. Crane  
Supervising Examiner: James O. Wilson  
Art Unit: 1623CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being delivered by  
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the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope  
addressed to: Supervising Examiner James O. Wilson, Technology  
Group 1600, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:Date: July 27, 2004Signed:   
Scott Yonemoto

## SECOND STATUS INQUIRY RE APPEAL BRIEF

Supervising Examiner James O. Wilson  
Technology Group 1600  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants are requesting a status update on an Appeal Brief filed November 21, 2001. As Applicants have not received a Notice of Noncompliance as required under 37 CFR § 1.192(d), Applicants assume that the Brief as filed complied with the requirements under 37 CFR § 1.192(c). It is Applicants understanding that they should have received an Examiner's Answer within 2 months after receipt of the brief. *See M.P.E.P. § 1208.* The Answer should indicate that an Appeal Conference was held. An Appeal Conference is mandatory in all cases in which an acceptable brief has been filed. *See M.P.E.P. § 1208.*

On April 10, 2003, after several telephone messages, Applicants were informed by Examiner Crane that an Appeal Conference would be held during that current quarter (i.e.,

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Spring 2003). Applicants never received an Answer pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 1208, and accordingly, Applicants assume that an Appeal Conference was never held.

On October 3, 2003, Applicants filed an Appeal Brief Status Request. No response was ever received responding to this status inquiry.

On July 26, 2004, Applicants again telephoned Examiner Crane regarding the status of the application. On July 27, 2004, he responded, stating that "he was not sure what he was going to do at this point." In addition, he stated there is a "possibility that it [the application] will be withdrawn from appeal, and another office action will be mailed." However, no definitive action appears to have been made, to date, on this application.

In the absence of the Examiner's answer, Applicants' application remains in the jurisdiction of the Technology Centers. Applicants note if the issue of a patent is delayed due to appellate review by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, and the patent is issued pursuant to a decision in the review reversing an adverse determination of patentability, the term of the patent shall be extended for a period of time but in no case more than 5 years. The period of extension includes any period beginning on the date on which the appeal was filed.

In the present case, the appeal was filed on November 21, 2001, *see* M.P.E.P. § 2720, and forwarded to Examiner Crane on January 2, 2002 for review. More than two years have passed without any action occurring on Applicants' Brief. Applicants note that the application has been pending for over eight (8) years and has received significantly more than three (3) office actions, thus the Patent Office's inaction does not expedite prosecution as set forth in M.P.E.P. § 707.02. The Patent Office's inaction, coupled with a lengthy appeal process will significantly shorten the term of patent, if a patent should issue. Accordingly, Applicants request resolution of this application through confirmation that either: 1) the

application is on appeal with the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences; or 2) a subsequent office action is to be mailed shortly.

Although the Applicants do not believe any additional fees are required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, including extension fees or other relief, which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Our Order No. 467720-00004 (A-63463-1/RFT/RMS/RMK)).

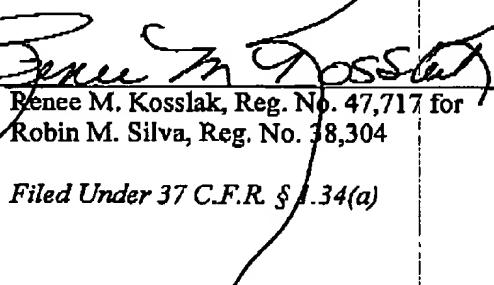
Please direct any calls in connection with this application to the undersigned at (415) 781-1989.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

Dated: July 27, 2004  
Customer No.: 32940  
Four Embarcadero Center  
Suite 3400  
San Francisco, CA 94111-4187  
Telephone: (415) 781-1989  
Facsimile: (415) 398-3249

By:

  
Renee M. Kossak, Reg. No. 47,717 for  
Robin M. Silva, Reg. No. 38,304

*Filed Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.34(a)*